

4.

All of God.

So He went through birth. Then He trusted His survival into the hands of a teenage girl. To feed Him. To keep Him warm and clean. To protect Him. And he learned about all those odd things that neither He nor Angels had ever experienced before. He found out what it was like to be so hungry that His stomach cramped with pain. How good bread tasted after a hard day's labour, when His muscles ached as if He'd been tortured.

And He made friends. As a boy. And then as an adult. Friends He trusted. Friends He loved. And He learned about the unbearable ache in the heart, and the sorrow of the last goodbye, when His friend Lazarus died. 'And Jesus wept.' So, all those questions of the past 4000 years were being answered.

But, sometimes the Spirit in Him would override the flesh it inhabited, and He would cry "Peace be still." And the wind and the waves obeyed their Maker. He called His friend Lazarus back to life. He took a few loaves and fish and multiplied them to feed a multitude. The world of Man, and the world of God had touched. Then came death. Painful, wretched, sorrow – filled death. Agony. Tears. Screams. The result of that first sin in the Garden. He suffered it for Love. With that He experienced *all* that men and woman could experience.

Our Creator isn't someone who's watched us from afar. He knows the pain of toothache. He knows what it's like when you can't make ends meet. He knows the euphoric joy of love, and the intense grief of death. Now He knows *why* we do those things we do. He understands. Because He's been here. He lived it. Christianity is not a religion. It's a love-story, between Him who 'so loved the world,' and us, the men and

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women of this earth. He was willing to wrap Himself in a robe of flesh to live here as a man, and suffer torture and crucifixion, to atone for the sin that separated us from Him in the beginning. He restored friendship, fellowship. We, the men and women of this earth always were, and always will be, the love of his life. He offers a free pardon to all who will accept it. To receive the forgiveness of sin, and be reconciled to Him personally, takes a prayer of repentance and commitment. And, we are restored back to the relationship Adam and Eve had with Him in Eden, as a son or daughter of God. A relationship that will last through all eternity.

To begin this relationship, pray. "Lord Jesus, I repent of my sins and sinful ways, and ask your forgiveness according to 1 John 1:9, where You promised it to me. I thank you for dying on the Cross for me, and I commit my life to You, to love You, and serve you always, as my Lord and Saviour. Amen". Or say it in your own words. In this new relationship with your Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, you need to speak to him often in prayer, because it is He who will lead you, protect you, and supply all your needs, because you now belong to Him.

Now that your sins are forgiven, and you are reconciled back to God, live a life that is worthy of Him. As with any new born creature, you need to feed or you will starve. The Bible is Spiritual food to satisfy our Spiritual hunger, read it daily to learn and grow. The most important part of this relationship, is the fact that Jesus didn't remain in the grave, but He was resurrected back to life after 3 days, as He foretold. Before He ascended to Heaven He promised, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

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His Story

This is the story of the One who
'So loved the world,'
And the love of His life, the
men and women of this earth



1.

'In the beginning God...' (Genesis 1:1). In the beginning there was *only* God. Alone in Eternity. Then He created Angels. Hebrews 1:14 tells us they are 'ministering Spirits.' Servants and messengers. But, He wanted someone who was *not* a servant. Someone who was completely free to make all their own decisions, with no strings attached. Only then would they be free to want to know Him if they chose to, because they would have the option of ignoring Him or even fighting against Him if they so desired.

So, He created the man, Adam, in His own image. The part of Adam created in the image of God was his spirit. Because 'God is a Spirit.' (John 4:24). The Lord wanted Adam to have the best life he could have, in the best place he could live. So He began to create the Universe, and the Earth, and all that is upon it. Each time He created something new, He looked on it and said it was 'good', or even 'very good'. It was perfection. The Paradise everyone dreams about.

Then the Lord wanted to put this man Adam into this Paradise. So, He took some of the earth and formed a body from it. And, He placed that spirit called Adam into the body, and we are told that Adam became a 'living soul'. (Genesis 2:7). Now, Adam could see this Paradise, touch it, smell the fragrance of the flowers, taste and eat the fruit. Then the Lord created a body for Himself and stepped into It, and they walked and talked together. God and Man as friends.

Psalms 115:16 tells us 'The Heavens, even the Heavens are the Lord's: but the earth has He given to the children of men.' This Earth wasn't the Lord's world. It was Adam's. As they walked among the animals He asked "What do you want to call this hairy creature?" Adam replied "A Camel" "And this one?" "Monkey" "This one?" "Lion". And Genesis 2:19 tells

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us 'whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.'

But, as Adam walked in this Garden, he felt something was missing. He was alone, as the Lord had been alone before Creation. So, the Lord took a rib from Adam, and made another body from it. Then He took the feminine part of Adam's spirit, and placed it within this body. So, Adam was completely masculine, and this other body was completely feminine. And Adam called her name Eve, and they lived together in the Garden of Eden. The perfect couple, in the most perfect place. Now, it truly *was* a Paradise. But, there was another creature in this Garden, one who could also talk. Beautiful to look at. He was the Serpent. And the Serpent beguiled, or seduced Eve. And sin entered the Garden. Sin, evil Sin, now marred perfection. And, the Holy, Righteous God could not live with sin, so the Man, the Woman, and the Serpent were expelled from the Paradise. This was the beginning of Man's separation from his Creator and all who were born after this, were born outside Eden, separated from Him. And as Mankind ventured away from Eden, the further away they got, the more evil they became, until, by the time of Noah, 'God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.' (Genesis 6:5).

Free will gives us the choice to do the greatest good that any man or woman is capable of doing. But it also gives the Hitler's, the Stalin's, the Osama Bin Laden's, the choice to fulfil all the evil desires that fill their hearts. All the time that *this*, our story, was going on, so, His story was going on also. He was revealing Himself to Mankind, the love of His life. When He wanted to reveal Himself to a man named Abraham,

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He stepped back into that body He had walked in in Eden and visited Abraham's tent with two Angels. He ate the meat of a calf with Abraham, drank milk, and walked and talked as He had in the Garden with Adam.

Four hundred years later, a man named Moses was called 'a friend of God.' Moses asked to see the Lord. So, the Lord stepped back into that body and Moses saw the back of Him. He used that Body again and again. As the Lord and Angels were observing men and women, He would ask "Why are they doing that?" The angels didn't know. They had no idea what men and women were going through. He saw parents stealing bread out of the hands of their hungry children. He saw people fight desperately with all they possessed to hang onto life. Others, being tortured would beg to die in desperation, as their tormentors ignored their pleas for mercy. This is what the Lord had created. But, it was all so foreign to Him. He had expected better things from us. He couldn't say "It's very good" any longer.

Then, the time came for the offering of the Lamb of God, to restore mankind back to the fellowship Adam had with Him in Eden. He could have stepped into that body that He had used so many times before, and come to earth as an adult to be taken and crucified. But He chose to start from the beginning. A baby. A child. A teenager. An adult. To find out what it was like to be a man. So, that Spirit was placed in a seed within the womb of a sixteen year old girl named Mary. And Mary became the incubator for a seed that was neither Jew nor Gentile. It was Almighty God. 'God was in Christ reconciling the World to Himself.' (2 Corinthians 5:19). How much of God? 'In Him dwelt All the fullness of Godhead bodily.' (Colossians 2:9).